

Key to Interpretation of Column Headings

Column Headings for the Disparities Analyses have been modified to improve their clarity and should now be self-explanatory.

The following column headings apply to the Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures

NQF #	This is the number that the NQF has assigned to this measure. Only NQF-endorsed measures will have a valid number in this field. Measures that are not NQF-endorsed have been given the value 0000 in this field by MHQP.
NQF Status	This field indicates whether or not the measure had received NQF endorsement as of March 10, 2009 and, if endorsed, whether that endorsement was unqualified or time-limited. Measures that are <u>not</u> NQF-endorsed are highlighted in yellow. Measures given time limited endorsement are highlighted in green. The NQF status was determined based on two types of information posted on the NQF website (www.qualityforum.org). The first information source is a compendium of NQF-endorsed measures as of October 28, 2008 that was downloaded from the NQF website. The second information source was press announcements of newly endorsed measures from October 2008 through March 10, 2009 that were posted on the NQF website. Each press release was accompanied by either a list of the endorsed measures or a report that contained a list of endorsed measures.
Service Category	The Service Category corresponds to the categories currently listed on the QCC Website (e.g. Bone & Joint Care) OR similarly defined categories (i.e., by organ system or Reproductive Care sub-categories) that could be added to the QCC website if new measures were posted (e.g. Respiratory Care).
Focus Area	This field indicates either the specific clinical condition or clinical procedure or the type of care that the measure focuses on
Measure Set	Some of the individual measures belong to a measure set that the the measure developer has created
Measure Title	This is the title of the measures as defined by the NQF or the measure owner.
Measure Description	For NQF-endorsed measures, this is the description of the measure as provided in either the NQF Compendium of Endorsed Measures or the materials accompanying NQF press releases for measures endorsed since the Compendium was compiled. For measures that have not received NQF endorsement, it is the description provided by the Measure Owner.
Measure Owner	This is the organization that developed the measure. For NQF-endorsed measures, it is the organization responsible for maintaining/updating the measure specifications.
Care Setting	This is the care setting to which the measure is applied. For hospital care quality measures, this may be an Inpatient service, outpatient clinic or emergency department. For ambulatory care quality measures this may be a physician office, a clinic/health center or a defined geographic area. Some measures are applicable to more than one setting.
Type of Measure	This is field may contain either the IOM domain (Safety, Timeliness, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Patient-Centered Care) or, for clinical effectiveness measures, the Donabedian classification as either Structure, Process or Outcome measures.

QCC Flag	<p>This is a flag that identifies whether or not the measure is currently reported on the QCC website, and if so, whether the measure was accessed from a secondary source or created by the QCC's Operations vendor.</p> <p>A value of 0 indicates that the measure is not currently reported on the QCC website but could be created from available data or accessed from a third party source.</p> <p>A value of 1 indicates that the measure is not currently reported on the QCC website but is publicly reported by another MA entity.</p> <p>A value of 2 indicates that the measure is currently being reported on the QCC website.</p>
Publicly Reported	<p>This field indicates whether or not the measure is currently being publicly reported by an entity that includes performance data for Massachusetts providers.</p> <p>Generally, the assigned value is "Yes" or "No". In some cases, a value of "Possibly" has been assigned if the measure will be publicly reported by a Massachusetts state agency or department (e.g. SRE reporting by DPH) or could be publicly reported by the QCC via an interagency agreement (e.g. MassHealth's hospital quality measures)</p>
Reported By	<p>The entity that either: is currently reporting the measure publicly, has agreed to report the measure publicly in the near future, or could report the measure if a MA interagency agreement were executed.</p>
Reported Where	<p>The website where the data are or will soon be publicly reported.</p>
Reported When	<p>Measures that are already publicly reported for MA providers contain the value "Currently reported" and an update frequency. For measures that will be publicly reported in the near future or that could be reported via a MA interagency agreement, this is the estimated date that the performance measurement data could become available for publicly reporting.</p>
Report from Claims or Discharge Data	<p>This field indicates whether or not the measure is or could be created from datasets currently available to the QCC's Operations Vendor. If the measure can be created using the Hospital Discharge Data (HDD) collected and maintained by DHCFP the value is HDD. If the measure can be created from the health plan claims data collected by the QCC, the value is Claims. If a hospital quality measure could potentially be created from either HDD or Claims, HDD is generally the preferred source as it is more complete and detailed than health plan claims for hospital-based services.</p>
Specs Available	<p>This field indicates whether or not detailed technical specifications for the measures are available and from which organization the specs may be obtained (generally the measure owner).</p>
Data Source	<p>For measures that are currently publicly reported by organizations or entities other than the QCC, this is where the publicly reported data may be accessed or licensed. For measures created for the QCC, this is the data source used by the Operations Vendor to create the measure. For measures that rely on data sources that are not currently available to the QCC this field is blank (e.g. measures based on medical records data, logs or other sources used hospitals)</p>
MHQP Recommendation	<p>This field contains MHQP's recommendation for whether and how publicly available measures should be reported by the QCC.</p> <p>For measures that are not publicly reported, but could be created using HDD or Claims data available to the Operations Vendor, no detailed recommendation has been made in this deliverable. These measures will be evaluated with respect to inclusion in future reporting plans based on whether they address an important gap in the reporting framework.</p>

The following headings apply to the Ambulatory Quality Measures

NQF #	These field definitions are the same as those used for the Hospital Inpatient Quality Measures
NQF Status	
Service Category	
Focus Area	
Measure Set	
Measure Title	
Measure Description	
Measure Owner	
Care Setting	
Type of Measure	
QCC Flag	
Publicly Reported	
Reported By	
Reported How	This field is only populated for measures that are publicly reported. It contains information about both where the data are reported and the level at which they are reported (e.g. individual physician; physician practice site, clinic or health center; physician medical group (multiple sites; infrastructure for quality improvement varies by site; often a contracting entity); physician network (multiple sites with shared infrastructure for quality improvement))
Reported When	For measures that are currently reported, this field contains information about how often and when the data are updated.
Currently Available Data Source	Since none of the ambulatory care quality measures is currently reported by the QCC, this field contains information on available sources for <u>either</u> accessing the measure results from a secondary source or creating the measure results based on data held by the QCC's Operations Vendor
Specs Available	This field indicates whether or not detailed technical specifications for the measures are available and from which organization the specs may be obtained (generally the measure owner).
Data Source	This field contains information about the data source(s) that the measure owners recommend in their respective technical specification documents.
RecommendedLevel of Measurement	This is either the level of measurement that existing performance results are currently reported by secondary source(s) or the level at which MHQP recommends that new measures produced by the Operations Vendor should be reported. MHQP's recommendations are based on consideration of expected sample sizes at each level and the appropriateness of attributing responsibility for compliance with the measure at each level.